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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Art Unit: *SKB*
Hiroaki OKAMOTO et al.)
IA No.: PCT/JP99/00393)
IA Filed: January 29, 1999) Washington, D.C.
U.S. App. No.:)
 (Not Yet Assigned))
National Filing Date:) August 3, 2000
 (Not Yet Received))
For: METHOD OF FORMING...) Docket No.: OKAMOTO7

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

Prior to examination upon the merits, kindly amend as
follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following claims:

--14. A safety valve element for a battery according to
claim 7, wherein said protection film is a coated film of
organic coating.

--15. A safety valve element of a battery according to
claim 14, wherein said protecting film is a laminated film of
an organic resin film.

--16. A closing plate according to claim 11, wherein said
adhering means is laser beam welding.

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Sub C7